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Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND

CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Leslye Corsiglia

SUBJECT: CASA FELIZ RELOCATION

STATUS UPDATE

DATE: August 24, 2005

Approved

Date

Council District: _

SNI: University

INFORMATION

BACKGROUND

On February 15, 2005, the City Council adopted a resolution approving certain actions related to the sale of Casa Feliz, a single-room-occupancy residential facility located at 525 South Ninth Street that had been acquired by the City through a foreclosure action in September 2004. The approved action included the implementation of a Relocation Plan. The Council directed staff to closely monitor the relocation and to periodically report on the status of the relocation activities. On May 24, 2005 staff provided the first status report. This memorandum serves as the report on the current status of the Casa Feliz relocation.

CASA FELIZ RELOCATION PLAN STATUS UPDATE

Since the implementation of the Relocation Plan on March 2, 2005, Overland Pacific & Cutler (OPC), the Casa Feliz relocation consultant, has been working closely with the 68 tenants to find appropriate alternate housing. Three relocation specialists and their manager have been assigned to the project, and as of the date of this report, only one tenant and one resident-manager remain on the premises. It is anticipated that both remaining tenants will be successfully relocated by September 1, 2005.

Throughout the relocation process, OPC specialists have provided tenants with personal assistance in their searches, including assistance in completing rental applications, and transportation to look at potential housing sites and to secure needed legal documents. With the tenants' permission, the OPC specialists also have coordinated with social workers, family members and other service providers to assess and address any special needs. OPC staff also follows up with tenants between 30 and 60 days after their moves. They meet with relocated tenants to assist in solving any problems that may have arisen in the new location such as meals,

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transportation or access to services. They have even offered assistance in finding alternative housing if tenants are unsatisfied with their original choice for relocation.

Despite public notice of the pending Relocation Plan, fourteen tenants voluntarily vacated the property before implementation of relocation assistance. OPC has contacted and/or resolved eligibility of ten of those tenants, and will continue efforts to contact the remaining four individuals and ensure they receive any benefits to which they are entitled.

OPC provides Housing Department staff with weekly status reports on the remaining tenants. In addition, staff from the Housing Department, OPC and John Stewart Company (the onsite property managers) continue to meet on a monthly basis to review the status of each remaining resident and develop action plans to address any remaining obstacles to successful relocation.

Following completion of the relocation, Casa Feliz will be locked and secured pending approval by the City Council of the property's disposition and development. Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at x5-3851.

LESLYE CORSIGLIA
Director of Housing